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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Robert Gary Ellis

Serial No.: 10/622,267

Docket No.: 36070.010

Filed: 07/17/2003

Group Art Unit No.: To Be Assigned

Attorney: Thomas I. Rozsa

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Telephone: (818) 783-0990

For: **PRACTICE DEVICE TO ENABLE CHILDREN TO SIMULATE  
SKATEBOARDING**

**MAIL STOP PETITIONS**

**Commissioner for Patents**

**P.O. Box 1450**

**Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450**

**PETITION TO ACCORD ORIGINAL FILING DATE OF**

**JULY 17, 2003**

SIR:

1. The NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION was mailed on May 11, 2004. A copy of the notice is enclosed. The two month time period in which to respond to the Notice expires on July 11, 2004. This Petition is being mailed by Express Mail to Mail Stop Petitions, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, along with a check for \$130.00. Therefore, this Petition is timely filed. It is believed that the mistake is on the part of the Patent Office and therefore, a request for a refund of the \$130.00 to our Deposit Account No. 18-2222 is respectfully made.

05/19/2004 AWONDA 1 00000010 10622267

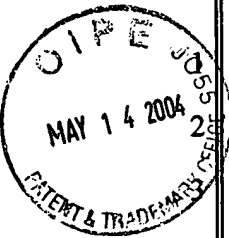
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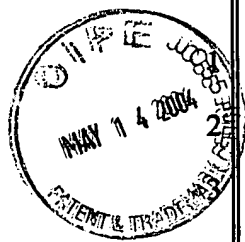
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2. In the NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE NONPROVISIONAL

APPLICATION the statement was made that "That application was deposited without drawings. 35 U.S.C. 113 (first sentence) requires a drawing 'where necessary for the understanding of the subject matter sought to be patented.'" The Applicant through his attorney respectfully states that at the time the application was filed, full drawings which included Figures 1 through 9 were enclosed. It is clear from a reference to the entire application text, another copy of which is enclosed, that Figures were referred to and numbers were referred to throughout the Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiment. All of this is supported by the accompanying Declaration of Thomas I. Rozsa. Accordingly, the Applicant now submits another copy of the entire patent application, a copy of the original signature documents, and another copy of the two sheets of drawings as originally submitted. This is supported by the accompanying Declaration of Thomas I. Rozsa.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that somehow the drawings must have been separated from the file in the Patent Office because at the time the application was filed, it was fully complete including drawings. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the application should be accorded the original filing date of July 17, 2003 and no additional new declaration is required.

Respectfully submitted,

Rozsa & Chen LLP

Dated: May 14, 2004

Thomas I. Rozsa

Thomas I. Rozsa

Registration No. 29,210

**I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on 05-14-04**

Date of Deposit

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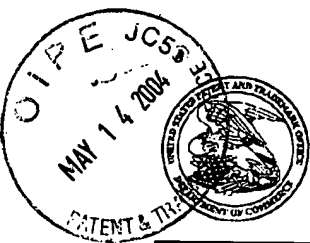
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THOMAS I. ROZSA  
Registration No. 29,210

Thomas I. Rozsa 05/14/04  
Signature and Date



## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371 (c) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
10/622,267	07/17/2003	Robert Gary Ellis	36070.010

021907  
 ROZSA & CHEN  
 15910 VENTURA BOULEVARD  
 SUITE 1601  
 ENCINO, CA 91436

CONFIRMATION NO. 4210

## FORMALITIES LETTER



\*OC000000012574994\*

Date Mailed: 05/11/2004

## NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

## FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

A filing date has NOT been accorded to the above-identified application papers for the reason(s) indicated below.

All of the items noted below and a newly executed oath or declaration covering the items must be submitted within **TWO MONTHS** of the date of this Notice, unless otherwise indicated, or proceedings on the application will be terminated (37 CFR 1.53(e)). Replies should be mailed to: Mail Stop Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450.

The filing date will be the date of receipt of all items required below, unless otherwise indicated. Any assertions that the item(s) required below were submitted, or are not necessary for a filing date, must be by way of petition directed to the attention of the Office of Petitions accompanied by the \$130.00 petition fee (37 CFR 1.17(h)). If the petition states that the application is entitled to a filing date, a request for a refund of the petition fee may be included in the petition. Petitions should be mailed to: Mail Stop Petitions, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450.

- The application was deposited without drawings. 35 U.S.C. 113 (first sentence) requires a drawing "where necessary for the understanding of the subject matter sought to be patented." Applicant should reconsider whether the drawings are necessary under 35 U.S.C. 113 (first sentence).

Replies should be mailed to: Mail Stop Missing Parts  
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*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*

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PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Robert Gary Ellis

Serial No.: 10/622,267

Docket No.: 36070.010

Filed: 07/17/2003

Group Art Unit No.: To Be Assigned

Attorney: Thomas I. Rozsa

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Telephone: (818) 783-0990

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**MAIL STOP PETITIONS**

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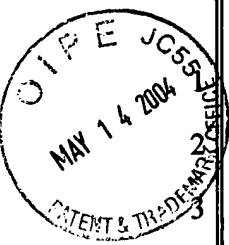
**DECLARATION OF THOMAS I. ROZSA**

**IN SUPPORT OF**

**PETITION TO ACCORD ORIGINAL FILING DATE OF  
JULY 17, 2003 TO PATENT APPLICATION 10/622,267**

1. I am the attorney of record who wrote and prosecuted the above-referenced patent application. I am the attorney who signed the check on July 17, 2003 and signed all of the transmittal documents. I also signed all of the cover sheets that accompanied the patent application.

2. I declare and state under penalty of perjury that I examined the entire patent application before it was deposited in the envelope and mailed to the Patent Office. Included with the original patent application were three copies of two sheets of



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drawings having Figures 1 through 9. Accompanying this Declaration are three copies of the same two sheets of drawings which were originally filed with the original patent application.

3. I can only conclude that somehow in the Patent Office the drawings were separated from the remainder of the file. I affirmatively state that the drawings as submitted herein were filed with the Patent Office at the time the application was filed.

4. I, Thomas I. Rozsa, being hereby warned that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any resulting registration, declare that the facts set forth in this Declaration are true, all statements made of my own knowledge are true, and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 14, 2004

Thomas I. Rozsa  
Thomas I. Rozsa  
Registration No. 29,210

Rozsa & Chen LLP  
15910 Ventura Boulevard, Suite 1601  
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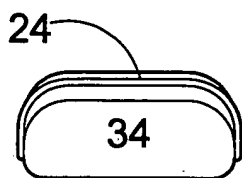
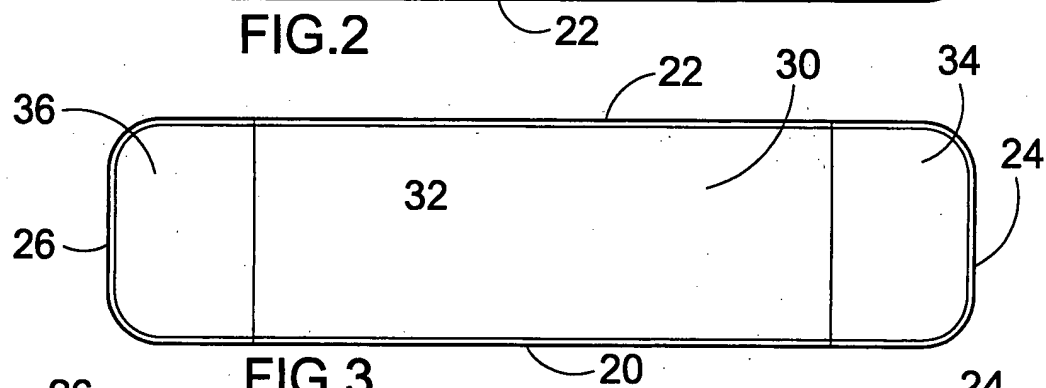
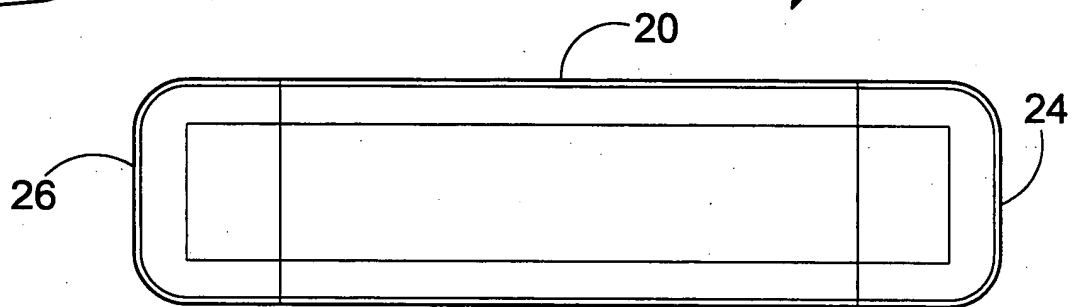
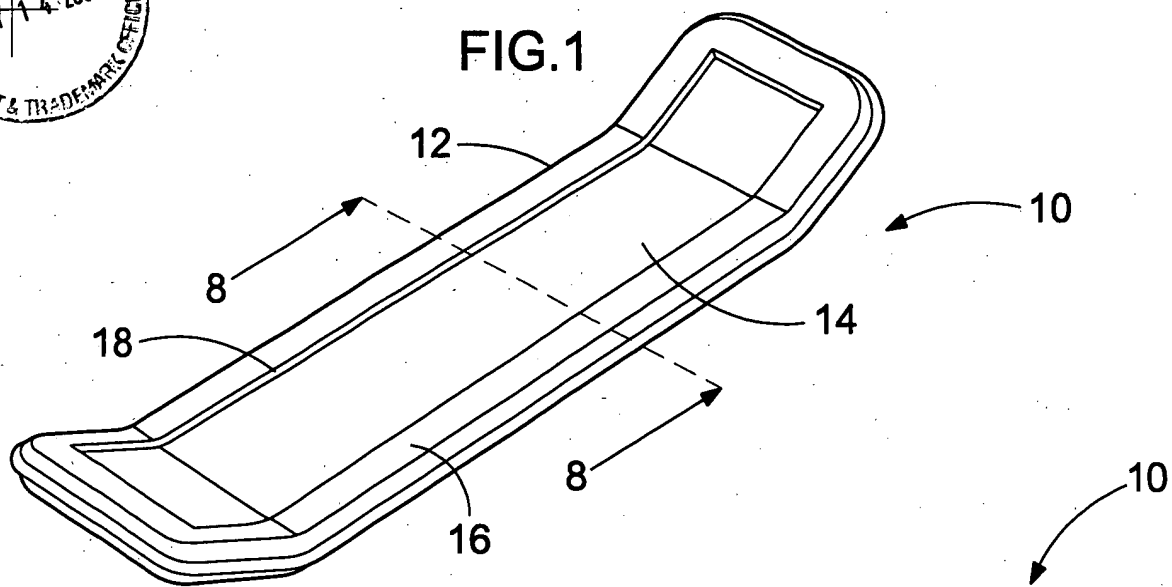
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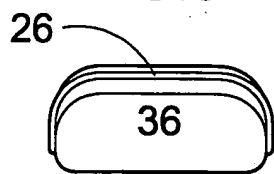
**Date of Deposit** 05-14-04  
**Express Mail No.** EV 31273100503

**THOMAS I. ROZSA**  
**Registration No. 29,210**

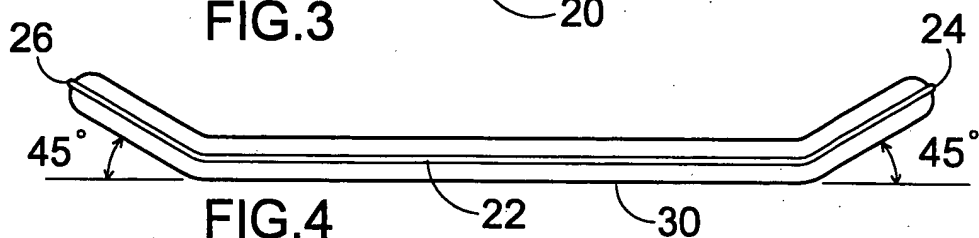
Thomas I. Rozsa 05/14/04  
**Signature and Date**



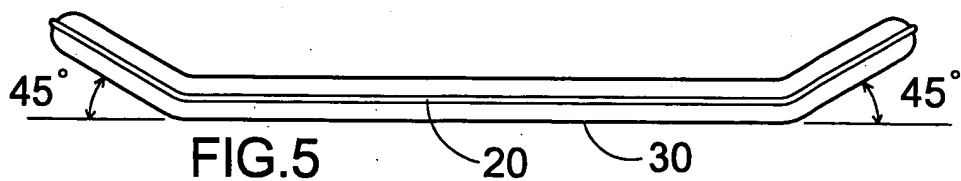
**FIG.6**



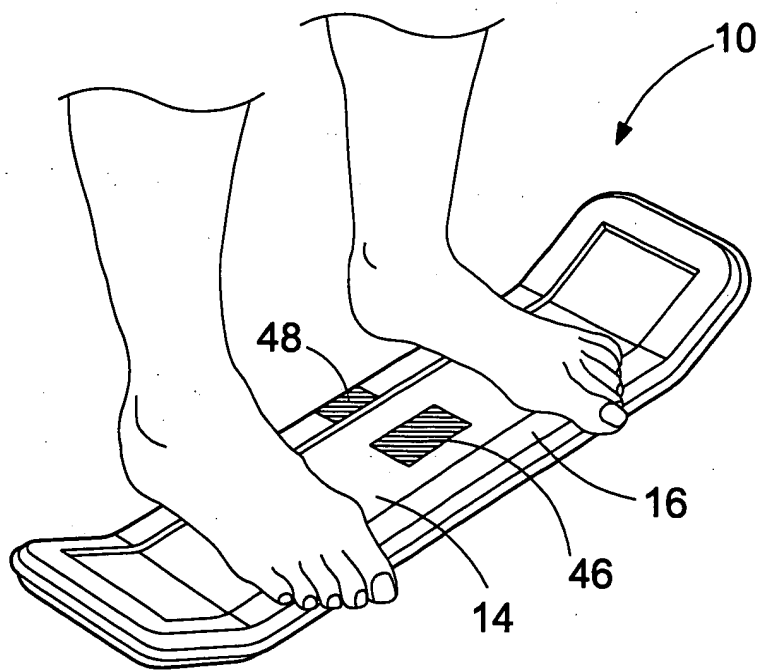
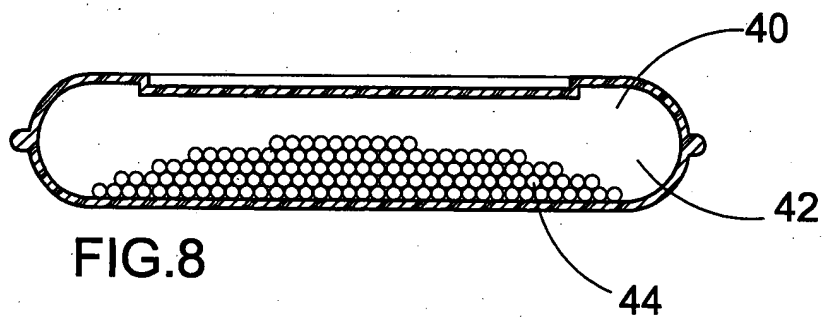
**FIG.7**



**FIG.4**



**FIG.5**





Attorney's Docket No. 6070.010

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Serial No.: 0 / (to be assigned) Group No.:

Filed:

Examiner:

For:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE**

"Express Mail" label number EV 255344394 US

Date of Deposit July 17, 2003

I hereby certify that the following attached paper or fee

**PATENT SPECIFICATION, CLAIMS AND ABSTRACT**

Entitled:

**PRACTICE DEVICE TO ENABLE CHILDREN TO SIMULATE  
SKATEBOARDING**

By Inventor(s): Robert Gary Ellis

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10, on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Thomas I. Rozsa

Typed or printed name of person mailing paper or fee

Thomas I. Rozsa 7/17/03

Signature of person mailing paper or fee

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(Express Mail Certificate [8-3])

2  
3 APPLICATION

4 *for*

5 UNITED STATES LETTERS PATENT

6  
7 *by*

8 ROBERT GARY ELLIS

9  
10  
11 *on the invention entitled*

12 PRACTICE DEVICE TO ENABLE CHILDREN  
13 TO SIMULATE SKATEBOARDING

14  
15  
16 Customer No.: 021907

17 Deposit Account No.: 18-2222

18 Pages of Specification: Nineteen (19)

19 Sheets of Drawing: Two (2)

20  
21 *prepared by*

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# PRACTICE DEVICE TO ENABLE CHILDREN TO SIMULATE SKATEBOARDING

## BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

### 1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to the field of sporting goods and in particular, to skateboards. The present invention also relates to the field of practice devices which enable a child to learn how to use a skateboard.

### 2. Description of the Prior Art

In general, skateboards and other similar sporting goods such as skis are known in the prior art. The following 14 patents and published patent applications are the closest prior art of which the inventor is aware:

1. United States Patent No. 3,655,211 issued to Bollettieri on April 11, 1972 for "Double Bend Stave" (hereafter the "Bollettieri Patent");

2. United States Patent No. 3,862,768 issued to England on January 28, 1975 for "Rollable Fulcrum Balancing Board Recreational And Exercise Device Provided With non-Linear Stabilization Features" (hereafter the "England Patent");

3. United States Patent No. 4,270,764 issued to Yamada on June 2, 1981 for "Noisemaker For Skateboard" (hereafter the "Yamada Patent");

1           4.       United States Patent No. 5,044,250 issued to Beyer on September 3, 1991 for  
2 "Drumstick With Sounding Pellets" (hereafter the "Beyer Patent");

3  
4           5.       United States Patent No. 5,267,743 issued to Smisek on December 7, 1993 for  
5 "Low Profile Skateboard" (hereafter the "Smisek Patent");

6  
7           6.       United States Patent No. 5,460,558 issued to Woodstock on October 24, 1995 for  
8 "Surfboard Foot Saddle" (hereafter the "Woodstock Patent");

9  
10          7.       United States Patent No. Des. 379,647 issued to Levinthal on June 3, 1997 for  
11 "Pair Of Ski" (hereafter the "Levinthal Patent");

12  
13          8.       United States Patent No. Des. 417,250 issued to Colin on November 30, 1999  
14 for "Gliding Board" (hereafter the "Colin Patent");

15  
16          9.       United States Patent No. 6,059,307 issued to Western on May 9, 2000 for  
17 "Skateboard Deck And Method For Making The Same" (hereafter the "Western Patent");

18  
19          10.       United States Patent No. US 6,290,249 B1 issued to Wolf on September 18, 2001  
20 for "Snow-Gliding Apparatus" (hereafter the "Wolf Patent");

21  
22          11.       United States Patent No. US D457,587 S issued to Wolf on May 21, 2002 for  
23 "Snow-Gliding Apparatus" (hereafter the "Wolf Patent");

24  
25          12.       United States Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0121752 A1 by  
26 inventor Gille published on September 5, 2002 for "Snowskate And Snow Scooter" (hereafter  
27 the "Gille Patent");  
28

1           13.     United States Patent Publication No. US 2003/017832 A1 by inventor Sachs  
2 published on January 23, 2003 for "Recreational Balancing Apparatus" (hereafter the "Sachs  
3 Patent");

4  
5           14.     United States Patent No. US 6,543,769 B1 issued to Podoloff on April 8, 2003  
6 for "Snowboard Apparatus" (hereafter the "Podoloff Patent");

7  
8           The Bollettieri Patent discloses staves which are used as skis on snow and water. The  
9 staves have substantially equal bends at their front and rear ends. The device has several  
10 longitudinally extending grooves 17 which serve the purpose of skis.

11  
12           The England Patent discloses a rollable fulcrum and essentially is a device which is in the  
13 shape of a Mexican sombrero hat having a ball in the center on which the individual balances.  
14 This patent shows an exercise type device.

15  
16           The Yamada Patent discloses a noisemaker for use in conjunction with a skateboard but  
17 the noisemaking device does not consist of internal pebbles or sand within the structure of the  
18 device which makes noise as the device is moved across a carpet. This device basically creates  
19 noise through mechanical structures as illustrated.

20  
21           The Beyer Patent is a drumstick with sound pellets.

22  
23           The Smisek Patent is a low profile skateboard and the essential feature is having a recess  
24 to receive the wheels of the skateboard so that the skateboard rests much lower to the ground  
25 than conventional prior art skateboards. However, referring to Figure 4 it can be seen that the  
26 skateboard has front and back ends that are put at an angle to the horizontal portion of the board  
27 and the angle, however, is substantially less than 45 degrees.

1 The Woodstock Patent discloses a surfboard having a foot saddle to prevent the surfer  
2 from sliding off the back end of the board. Specifically referring to Column 2, line 30, the patent  
3 states "The foot saddle 10 consists of a structure 22 for maintaining one foot 24 of a surfer 26 in  
4 a stationary position upon the deck near the tail end of the surfboard and help prevent the  
5 surfer's foot 24 from inadvertently sliding off the surfboard."  
6

7 The Levinthal Patent discloses a design for a ski. The design which can best be seen in  
8 Figure 5 in cross section shows having arcuately shaped extending upward front and rear ends  
9 and a generally upwardly extending arcuate shaped center section.  
10

11 The Colin Patent is also a design patent for the shape of a gliding board.  
12

13 The Western Patent discloses the concept of a skateboard deck and method for making  
14 the same. The patent does show the concept of having a horizontal center section and then  
15 having upwardly extending front and rear ends although the angle is only 18 degrees at one end  
16 and 15 degrees at the other end.  
17

18 The Wolf Patent discloses a snow gliding apparatus which includes an elongated member  
19 having an intermediate portion positioned between a pair of upturned end portions. The end  
20 portions are rounded and do not have a sharp 45 degree angle. Further, there are a multiplicity  
21 of lower grooves 26 and 36.  
22

23 The published Gille Patent Application discloses a snowskate and snow scooter.  
24

25 The published Sachs Patent Application discloses a device which is a recreational  
26 balancing apparatus which comprises a frame defining a horizontal opening therein, and a  
27  
28

balancing board mounted on a joint assembly.

The Podoloff Patent discloses a snowboard apparatus which is a simulator for snowboarding and skateboarding.

None of the prior art patents teach a simple effective device for enabling children to learn how to use a skateboard in a safe and secure manner. There is a significant need for such an invention.

## SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is a practice device to enable children to simulate skateboarding in a safe manner so the children can practice sliding the practice device on a surface and balancing themselves on the device.

It has been discovered, according to the present invention, that a board made of plastic which has a flat and smooth lower surface and upturned front and rear ends provides a safe and effective device to enable children to simulate skateboarding on a smooth surface such as carpets, a lawn, dirt, sand and even a bed.

It has further been discovered, according to the present invention, that if the front and rear ends of the device are upturned at an angle between 30 degrees and 50 degrees to the horizontal with the preferred angle being 45 degrees, then the device will not flip over.

It has also been discovered, according to the present invention, that if the device further comprises a hollow interior which contains items such as beads or sand, the beads or sand will simulate a wave noise as the practice device is moved as the child plays and practices on the device.

It has additionally been discovered, according to the present invention, that if the top surface of the device comprises a lowered center section and a circumferential ridge running along the external circumference of the device on its top surface and extending inwardly to the lower section, then the child can place his/her feet transverse to the board so that the balls of the child's feet or the heels of the child's feet can connect with the exterior ridge portion so that the child gets a better grip on the board and this further assists the child in simulating skateboarding.



1 It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide a practice device which has a  
2 flat and smooth lower surface and an upturned front and rear surface, preferably at an angle  
3 between 30 degrees and 50 degrees to the horizontal at both the front and the rear end so that the  
4 device enables children to safely practice skateboarding while sliding the device on a smooth  
5 surface such as carpets, a lawn, dirt, sand, and even a bed.

6  
7 It is a further object of the present invention to provide additional sound effects within  
8 the device so that the device simulates a wave motion to further provide additional enjoyment to  
9 the child as the child practices skateboarding on the practice device.

10  
11 It is an additional object of the present invention to provide supporting balancing means  
12 on the upper surface of the practice device so that the child can place his or her feet transverse to  
13 the longitudinal upper surface of the device and obtain a more secure grip for the balls of the  
14 child's feet or the heels of the child's feet to further practice and simulate skateboarding.

15  
16 Further novel features and other objects of the present invention will become apparent  
17 from the following detailed description, discussion and the appended claims, taken in  
18 conjunction with the drawings.

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Referring particularly to the drawings for the purpose of illustration only and not limitation, there is illustrated:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the present invention practice device;

FIG. 2 is a top plan view of the present invention practice device;

FIG. 3 is a bottom plan view of the present invention practice device;

FIG. 4 is a left side view of the present invention practice device as viewed from the left side;

FIG. 5 is a side elevational view of the present invention practice device as viewed from the right side;

FIG. 6 is a front elevational view of the present invention practice device;

FIG. 7 is a rear elevational view of the present invention practice device;

FIG. 8 is a cross sectional view taken along line 8-8 of FIG. 1 of the present invention practice device; and

FIG. 9 is a perspective view of the present invention practice device showing a child placing his feet transverse to the present invention practice device so that the balls of the child's feet rest adjacent the intersection of the portion of the ridge and the lowered central surface.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Although specific embodiments of the present invention will now be described with reference to the drawings, it should be understood that such embodiments are by way of example only and merely illustrative of but a small number of the many possible specific embodiments which can represent applications of the principles of the present invention. Various changes and modifications obvious to one skilled in the art to which the present invention pertains are deemed to be within the spirit, scope and contemplation of the present invention as further defined in the appended claims.

Referring to Figures 1 through 7, there is shown at 10 the present invention practice device. In the preferred embodiment, the practice device is generally elongated with a top surface 12 having a depressed or lowered section 14 in the interior portion of the upper surface 12 and a circumferential ridge 16 which extends along the entire upper surface 12 and extends inwardly from the exterior edge until it joins the lowered section 14. A short vertical wall 18 is created between the interior edges of the ridge 16 and the lower section 14. While in the preferred embodiment the ridge extends along the entire circumference as shown in Figure 1, it is also within the spirit and scope of the present invention to have the ridge 16 only extend along at least a portion of the lengthwise edges of the upper surface of the device 10.

Referring to Figure 2, the device has a first lengthwise edge 20, and a parallel and oppositely disposed second lengthwise edge 22, a front or first widthwise edge 24 and a second or rear widthwise edge 26.

Referring to the bottom plan view of Figure 3, it can be seen that the lower surface of the device 30 is completely smooth and flat. This can also be seen by looking at the side views of

1 Figures 4 and 5. The center section of the lower surface 32 is completely flat and is bounded by  
2 the center portion lengthwise edges 20 and 22. As shown in Figures 4 and 5, the front edge 24  
3 and the rear edge 26 are upturned from the lower surface 30. The preferred angle for both the  
4 front and rear edges are 45 degrees as shown in Figures 4 and 5. However, it is within the spirit  
5 and scope of the present invention to have the angle extend between 30 degrees and 50 degrees  
6 with 45 degrees being the preferred angle.

7  
8 The lower surface of the front upturned section is 34 and the lower surface of the rear  
9 upturned section is 36 are also smooth. It is apparent from viewing Figures 3 through 5 that the  
10 lower surface 30 is entirely smooth and flat with no ridges or bumps and the lowermost  
11 lengthwise portion of the surface 32 is completely flat and smoothly extends into lower surface  
12 34 and lower surface 36 so that as the device is slid along a surface, the device can be tilted  
13 upwardly so that surface 34 extends on the bottom of the ground or is tilted rearwardly so that  
14 surface 36 extends on the bottom of the ground to thereby simulate skateboarding.

15  
16 In one embodiment, the entire device is made of a solid piece of material. In an  
17 alternative embodiment, the interior of the device 40 has one or more hollow sections such as  
18 section 42 as illustrated in Figure 8, which hollow section 42 contains noisemaking devices 44  
19 such as beads, pebbles, or sand. The hollow section 42 can run the entire length of the center  
20 portion of the device or it can also run for a portion of the length of the center portion of the  
21 device, or there can be several separated hollow sections within the center portion of the device.  
22 Also, it is within the spirit and scope of the present invention to have the hollow section run on  
23 the front portion of the device bounded by front edge 24 or within the rear portion of the device  
24 bounded by rear edge 26.

25  
26 In practice, a child can place on of his/her feet on the upper surface of the device 10 such  
27  
28

1 as lowered section 14 and push along the surface of the ground with his/her other foot to cause  
2 the practice device 10 to move. When pushed in one direction, the device moves forwardly and  
3 when pushed in the other direction, the device moves rearwardly. The device can also be caused  
4 to move side to side.

5  
6 The child can also place his/her feet transverse to the lengthwise edge of the upper  
7 section as illustrated in Figure 9. In this manner, the balls of the child's feet can rest at the  
8 vertical wall 18 at the intersection of the lower section 14 and the ridge 16 to provide better  
9 traction and balance as a child moves the board with body motions to simulate skateboarding.  
10 Alternatively, the rear of the child's feet can rest at the intersection wall 18 where the lower  
11 section 14 meets the ridge 16.

12  
13 Because of the flat surface 30, and especially center section 32, the practice device 10  
14 can easily slide on any type of reasonably smooth surface such as grass, carpet, a wood floor, a  
15 linoleum floor, dirt, and even a bed. The fact that the lower portion 34 of the front section and  
16 the lower portion 36 of the rear section are also flat and smooth can also facilitate the board  
17 being ridden on these surfaces as well to further simulate a skateboard. In addition, the lowered  
18 center section 14 and the ridge 16 provide better traction and security for the child to safely  
19 move on the board and to practice skateboarding. The fact that the front edge 24 and the rear  
20 edge 26 are each extended at an angle above the lower surface of approximately 45 degrees  
21 prevents the practice device 10 from flipping over to provide additional safety to the child.  
22 While 45 degrees is the preferred angle, an angle between 30 degrees and 50 degrees are within  
23 the spirit and scope of the present invention for the front portion and also for the rear portion  
24 relative to the center section.

25  
26 The optional feature of having one or more hollow interior compartments within the  
27  
28

1 practice device which house noisemaking devices such as beads, pebbles or sand adds further  
2 enjoyment to the child as motion of the board will simulate a wave motion noise.

3  
4 In the preferred embodiment, the practice device 10 is manufactured out of any one or  
5 more of conventional plastic material such as polyethylene and polypropylene or polyvinyl. It is  
6 also within the spirit and scope of the present invention to make the practice device out of any  
7 other type of safe structural material such as wood or metal or even strong cardboard or  
8 styrofoam. However, plastic or any one of the plastic derivatives is the preferred material out of  
9 which the board is made as the device can then be easily molded.

10  
11 It is also within the spirit and scope of the present invention to have the device made of  
12 more than one material such as the center section on the top being made of one type of material  
13 and the ridge and exterior circumferential section composed of the ridge being made of another  
14 piece of material.

15  
16 Further, to add additional traction, one or more grip pads 46 can be placed on the lowered  
17 section 14 of upper surface 12 so that the feet can be placed on the grip pads 14 to add more  
18 traction. While only one grip pad 14 is illustrated in Figure 9, it will be appreciated that the  
19 lower surface 14 can have a grip pad or there can be a multiplicity of separated smaller grip pads  
20 along the lower surface 14.

21  
22 It is also within the spirit and scope of the present invention to have the grip pads on the  
23 one or more portions of the ridge as illustrated in Figure 9 where grip pad 48 is on a portion of  
24 the ridge 16.

1 Defined in detail, the present invention is a practice device to simulate skateboarding,  
2 comprising: (a) an elongated structure having a center section, a front section and a rear section,  
3 with the three sections having an adjoining upper surface and an adjoining lower surface; (b) the  
4 center section having a lower surface which is a smooth surface; (c) the front section extending  
5 at a 45 degree angle to the center section and the rear section extending at a 45 degree angle to  
6 the center section; (d) the upper surface of all three sections having a lowered interior area and a  
7 circumferential ridge extending along the circumference of the upper surface and extending  
8 inwardly such that a vertical wall is formed at the intersection of the interior portion of the  
9 circumferential ridge and the lowered interior area; and (e) the structure having at least one  
10 interior hollow chamber containing noisemaking material within the chamber.

11  
12 Defined broadly, the present invention is a practice device to simulate skateboarding,  
13 comprising: (a) an elongated structure having a center section, a front section and a rear section,  
14 with the three sections having an adjoining upper surface and an adjoining lower surface; (b) a  
15 center section having a lower surface which is a smooth surface; (c) a front section extending at  
16 a 45 degree angle to the center section and the rear section extending at a 45 degree angle to the  
17 center section; and (d) an upper surface of all three sections having a lowered interior area and a  
18 circumferential ridge extending along the circumference of the upper surface and extending  
19 inwardly such that a vertical wall is formed at the intersection of the interior portion of the  
20 circumferential ridge and the lowered interior area.

21  
22 Defined more broadly, the present invention is a practice device to simulate  
23 skateboarding, comprising: (a) an elongated structure having a center section, a front section and  
24 a rear section, with the three sections having an adjoining upper surface and an adjoining lower  
25 surface; (b) the center section having a lower surface which is a smooth surface; (c) the front  
26 section extending at an angle between 30 degrees and 50 degrees to the center section and the  
27  
28

1 rear section extending at an angle between 30 degrees and 50 degrees to the center section; and  
2 (d) the upper surface of all three sections having a lowered interior area and a ridge extending  
3 along at least a portion of the circumference of the upper surface and extending inwardly such  
4 that the ridge adjoins the lowered interior area.  
5

6 Of course the present invention is not intended to be restricted to any particular form or  
7 arrangement, or any specific embodiment, or any specific use, disclosed herein, since the same  
8 may be modified in various particulars or relations without departing from the spirit or scope of  
9 the claimed invention hereinabove shown and described of which the apparatus or method  
10 shown is intended only for illustration and disclosure of an operative embodiment and not to  
11 show all of the various forms or modifications in which this invention might be embodied or  
12 operated.  
13

14 The present invention has been described in considerable detail in order to comply with  
15 the patent laws by providing full public disclosure of at least one of its forms. However, such  
16 detailed description is not intended in any way to limit the broad features or principles of the  
17 present invention, or the scope of the patent to be granted. Therefore, the invention is to be  
18 limited only by the scope of the appended claims.  
19

20 **WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**  
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1. A practice device to simulate skateboarding, comprising:
  - a. an elongated structure having a center section, a front section and a rear section, with the three sections having an adjoining upper surface and an adjoining lower surface;
  - 5 b. the center section having a lower surface which is a smooth surface;
  - c. the front section extending at a 45 degree angle to the center section and the rear section extending at a 45 degree angle to the center section;
  - 10 d. the upper surface of all three sections having a lowered interior area and a circumferential ridge extending along the circumference of the upper surface and extending inwardly such that a vertical wall is formed at the intersection of the interior portion of the circumferential ridge and the lowered interior area; and
  - e. the structure having at least one interior hollow chamber containing noisemaking material within the chamber.
2. A practice device to simulate skateboarding in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said noisemaking material is sand.
3. A practice device to simulate skateboarding in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said noisemaking material is beads.
4. A practice device to simulate skateboarding in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the device is made of plastic.
5. A practice device to simulate skateboarding in accordance with Claim 1, further comprising at least one grip pad on the lowered interior area of the upper surface.

6. A practice device to simulate skateboarding in accordance with Claim 1, further comprising at least one grip pad on the circumferential ridge on the upper surface.
7. A practice device to simulate skateboarding, comprising:
- a. an elongated structure having a center section, a front section and a rear section, with the three sections having an adjoining upper surface and an adjoining lower surface;
  - b. a center section having a lower surface which is a smooth surface;
  - c. a front section extending at a 45 degree angle to the center section and the rear section extending at a 45 degree angle to the center section; and
  - d. an upper surface of all three sections having a lowered interior area and a circumferential ridge extending along the circumference of the upper surface and extending inwardly such that a vertical wall is formed at the intersection of the interior portion of the circumferential ridge and the lowered interior area.
8. A practice device to simulate skateboarding in accordance with Claim 7, wherein the device is made of plastic.
9. A practice device to simulate skateboarding in accordance with Claim 7, further comprising at least one grip pad on the lowered interior area of the upper surface.
10. A practice device to simulate skateboarding in accordance with Claim 7, further comprising at least one grip pad on the circumferential ridge on the upper surface.

11. A practice device to simulate skateboarding, comprising:
- a. an elongated structure having a center section, a front section and a rear section, with the three sections having an adjoining upper surface and an adjoining lower surface;
  - b. the center section having a lower surface which is a smooth surface;
  - c. the front section extending at an angle between 30 degrees and 50 degrees to the center section and the rear section extending at an angle between 30 degrees and 50 degrees to the center section; and
  - d. the upper surface of all three sections having a lowered interior area and a ridge extending along at least a portion of the circumference of the upper surface and extending inwardly such that the ridge adjoins the lowered interior area.
12. A practice device to simulate skateboarding in accordance with Claim 11, further comprising the structure having at least one interior hollow chamber containing noisemaking material within the chamber.
13. A practice device to simulate skateboarding in accordance with Claim 12, wherein said noisemaking material is sand.
14. A practice device to simulate skateboarding in accordance with Claim 12, wherein said noisemaking material is beads.
15. A practice device to simulate skateboarding in accordance with Claim 11, wherein the device is made of plastic.

16. A practice device to simulate skateboarding in accordance with Claim 11, further comprising at least one grip pad on the lowered interior area of the upper surface.
17. A practice device to simulate skateboarding in accordance with Claim 11, where the intersection of the interior portion of the circumferential ridge and the lowered interior area on the upper surface is formed as a vertical wall.

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A practice device to enable children to simulate skateboarding in a safe manner so the children can practice sliding the practice device on a surface and balancing themselves on the device. The device comprises a center section, a front section and a rear section where the front and rear sections are at an angle to the center section and the bottom surface of the device is entirely smooth to facilitate the movement of the device on a surface. The upper surface of the device has a lowered interior area surrounded by a circumferential ridge.

Attorney's Docket No. 06070.010

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Serial No.: 0 (to be assigned) Group No.:

Filed: Examiner:

For:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE**

"Express Mail" label number EV 255344394 US

Date of Deposit July 17, 2003

I hereby certify that the following attached paper or fee

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY  
for the Invention

Entitled: PRACTICE DEVICE TO ENABLE CHILDREN TO SIMULATE  
SKATEBOARDING

by Inventor(s): Robert Gary Ellis

is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10, on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Thomas I. Rozsa, Esq.

Typed or printed name of person mailing paper or fee

Thomas I Rozsa 7/17/03

Signature of person mailing paper or fee

**NOTE:** Each paper must have its own certificate and the "Express Mail" label number as a part thereof or attached thereto. When, as here, the certification is presented on a separate sheet, that sheet must (1) be signed and (2) fully identify and be securely attached to the paper or fee it accompanies. Identification should include the serial number and filing date of the application as well as the type of paper being filed, e.g. complete application, specification and drawings, responses to rejection or refusal, notice of appeal, etc. If the serial number of the application is not known, the identification should include at least the name of the inventor(s) and the title of the invention.

**NOTE:** The label number need not be placed on each page. It should, however, be placed on the first page of each separate document, such as, a new application, amendment, assignment, and transmittal letter for a fee, along with the certificate of mailing by "Express Mail." Although the label number may be on checks, such a practice is not required. In order not to deface formal drawings it is suggested that the label number be placed on the back of each formal drawing or the drawings be accompanied by a set of informal drawings on which the label number is placed.

(Express Mail Certificate [8-3])

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**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

(ORIGINAL, DESIGN, NATIONAL STAGE OF PCT, SUPPLEMENTAL, DIVISIONAL,  
CONTINUATION OR C-I-P)

---

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

**TYPE OF DECLARATION**

This declaration is of the following type:

*(check one applicable item below)*

- ☒ original.
- ☐ design.
- ☐ supplemental.

**NOTE:** *If the declaration is for an International Application being filed as a divisional, continuation or continuation-in-part application, do not check next item; check appropriate one of last three items.*

- ☐ national stage of PCT.

**NOTE:** *If one of the following 3 items apply, then complete and also attach ADDED PAGES FOR DIVISIONAL, CONTINUATION OR C-I-P.*

- ☐ divisional.
- ☐ continuation.
- ☐ continuation-in-part (C-I-P).

**INVENTORSHIP IDENTIFICATION**

**WARNING:** *If the inventors are each not the inventors of all the claims, an explanation of the facts, including the ownership of all the claims at the time the last claimed invention was made, should be submitted.*

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below, next to my name. I believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor *(if only one name is listed below)* or an original, first and joint inventor *(if plural names are listed below)* of the subject matter that is claimed, and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**TITLE OF INVENTION**

PRACTICE DEVICE TO ENABLE CHILDREN TO SIMULATE SKATEBOARDING

---

## SPECIFICATION IDENTIFICATION

the specification of which:

(complete (a), (b) or (c))

(a) ☒ is attached hereto.

**NOTE:** "The following combinations of information supplied in an oath or declaration filed on the application filing date with a specification are acceptable as minimums for identifying a specification and compliance with any one of the items below will be accepted as complying with the identification requirement of 37 CFR 1.63:

"(1) name of inventor(s), and reference to an attached specification which is both attached to the oath or declaration at the time of execution and submitted with the oath or declaration on filing;

"(2) name of inventor(s), and attorney docket number which was on the specification as filed;  
or

"(3) name of inventor(s), and title which was on the specification as filed."

Notice of July 13, 1995 (1177 O.G. 60).

(b) ☐ was filed on \_\_\_\_\_, as ☐ Serial No. 0 / \_\_\_\_\_  
or ☐ \_\_\_\_\_  
and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable).

**NOTE:** Amendments filed after the original papers are deposited with the PTO that contain new matter are not accorded a filing date by being referred to in the declaration. Accordingly, the amendments involved are those filed with the application papers or, in the case of a supplemental declaration, are those amendments claiming matter not encompassed in the original statement of invention or claims. See 37 CFR 1.67.

**NOTE:** "The following combinations of information supplied in an oath or declaration filed after the filing date are acceptable as minimums for identifying a specification and compliance with any one of the items below will be accepted as complying with the identification requirement of 37 CFR 1.63:

"(1) name of inventor(s), and application number (consisting of the series code and the serial number; e.g., 08/123,456);

"(2) name of inventor(s), serial number and filing date;

"(3) name of inventor(s) and attorney docket number which was on the specification as filed;

"(4) name of inventor(s), title which was on the specification as filed and filing date;

"(5) name of inventor(s), title which was on the specification as filed and reference to an attached specification which is both attached to the oath or declaration at the time of execution and submitted with the oath or declaration; or

"(6) name of inventor(s), title which was on the specification as filed and accompanied by a cover letter accurately identifying the application for which it was intended by either the application number (consisting of the series code and the serial number; e.g., 08/123,456), or serial number and filing date. Absent any statement(s) to the contrary, it will be presumed that the application filed in the PTO is the application which the inventor(s) executed by signing the oath or declaration."

Notice of July 13, 1995 (1177 O.G. 60).

(c) ☐ was described and claimed in PCT International Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ and as amended under PCT Article 19 on \_\_\_\_\_ (if any).



## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF REVIEW OF PAPERS AND DUTY OF CANDOR**

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information, which is material to patentability as defined in 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56,

*(also check the following items, if desired)*

☒ and which is material to the examination of this application, namely, information where there is a substantial likelihood that a reasonable Examiner would consider it important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, and

☒ in compliance with this duty, there is attached an information disclosure statement, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98.

### **PRIORITY CLAIM (35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d))**

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed.

*(complete (d) or (e))*

(d) ☒ no such applications have been filed.

(e) ☐ such applications have been filed as follows.

**NOTE:** Where item (c) is entered above and the International Application which designated the U.S. itself claimed priority check item (e), enter the details below and make the priority claim.

**PRIOR FOREIGN/PCT APPLICATION(S) FILED WITHIN 12 MONTHS  
(6 MONTHS FOR DESIGN) PRIOR TO THIS APPLICATION  
AND ANY PRIORITY CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d)**

COUNTRY (OR INDICATE IF PCT)	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 37 USC 119
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES    NO <input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES    NO <input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES    NO <input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES    NO <input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES    NO <input type="checkbox"/>

**CLAIM FOR BENEFIT OF PRIOR U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION(S)**  
(34 U.S.C. § 119(e))

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

**PROVISIONAL APPLICATION NUMBER**

**FILING DATE**

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**CLAIM FOR BENEFIT OF EARLIER US/PCT APPLICATION(S)**  
**UNDER 35 U.S.C. 120**

- ☐ The claim for the benefit of any such applications are set forth in the attached ADDED PAGES TO COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR DIVISIONAL, CONTINUATION OR CONTINUATION-IN-PART (C-I-P) APPLICATION.

**ALL FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, FILED MORE THAN 12 MONTHS  
(6 MONTHS FOR DESIGN) PRIOR TO THIS U.S. APPLICATION**

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**NOTE:** If the application filed more than 12 months from the filing date of this application is a PCT filing forming the basis for this application entering the United States as (1) the national stage, or (2) a continuation, divisional, or continuation-in-part, then also complete **ADDED PAGES TO COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR DIVISIONAL, CONTINUATION OR C-I-P APPLICATION** for benefit of the prior U.S. or PCT application(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

**POWER OF ATTORNEY**

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

*(list name and registration number)*

ROZSA & CHEN LLP

Thomas I. Rozsa, Esq., Registration No. 29,210

Tony D. Chen, Esq., Registration No. 36,998

*(check the following item, if applicable)*

- ☐ Attached, as part of this declaration and power of attorney, is the authorization of the above-named attorney(s) to accept and follow instructions from my representative(s).

---

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO  
ROZSA & CHEN LLP  
15910 Ventura Boulevard  
Suite 1601  
Encino, California 91436-2815

DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO:  
*(Name and telephone number)*  
Thomas I. Rozsa  
Tony D. Chen  
(818) 783-0990

---

**DECLARATION**

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

(Declaration and Power of Attorney [1-1]—page 5 of 7)

### SIGNATURE(S)

NOTE: Carefully indicate the family (or last) name, as it should appear on the filing receipt and all other documents.

Full name of sole or first inventor

Robert

Gary

Ellis

(GIVEN NAME)

(MIDDLE INITIAL OR NAME)

FAMILY (OR LAST NAME)

Inventor's signature

Date

7/11/03

Country of Citizenship

United States

Residence

Topanga, California

Post Office Address

19543 Grandview Drive

Topanga, California 90290

Full name of second joint inventor, if any

(GIVEN NAME)

(MIDDLE INITIAL OR NAME)

FAMILY (OR LAST NAME)

Inventor's signature

Date

Country of Citizenship

Residence

Post Office Address

Full name of third joint inventor, if any

(GIVEN NAME)

(MIDDLE INITIAL OR NAME)

FAMILY (OR LAST NAME)

Inventor's signature

Date

Country of Citizenship

Residence

Post Office Address

*(check proper box(es) for any of the following added page(s)  
that form a part of this declaration)*

☐ **Signature** for fourth and subsequent joint inventors. *Number of pages added* \_\_\_\_\_

\* \* \*

☐ **Signature** by administrator(trix), executor(trix) or legal representative for deceased or incapacitated inventor. *Number of pages added* \_\_\_\_\_

\* \* \*

☐ **Signature** for inventor who refuses to sign or cannot be reached by person authorized under 37 CFR 1.47. *Number of pages added* \_\_\_\_\_

\* \* \*

☐ Added page for **signature** by one joint inventor on behalf of deceased inventor(s) where legal representative cannot be appointed in time. (37 CFR 1.47)

\* \* \*

☐ Added pages to combined declaration and power of attorney for divisional, continuation, or continuation-in-part (C-I-P) application.

☐ Number of pages added \_\_\_\_\_

\* \* \*

☐ Authorization of attorney(s) to accept and follow instructions from representative.

\* \* \*

*(if no further pages form a part of this Declaration,  
then end this Declaration with this page and check the following item)*

☒ This declaration ends with this page.

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Patent application

of Robert Gary Ellis

Inventor(s)

for PRACTICE DEVICE TO ENABLE CHILDREN TO SIMULATE SKATEBOARDING

Title of invention

the specification of which is being transmitted herewith

OR

In re application of:

Application No.: 0 /

Group No.:

Filed:

Examiner:

For:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.8(a) and 1.10\***  
(When using Express Mail, the Express Mail label number is mandatory;  
Express Mail certification is optional.)

I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being:

**MAILING**

☒ deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)

☐ with sufficient postage as first class mail.

37 C.F.R. § 1.10\*

☒ as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee"

Mailing Label No. \_\_\_\_\_ (mandatory)

Mail Label No. EV 255344394 US

**TRANSMISSION**

☐ facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office, (703) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature

Thomas I. Rozsa

(type or print name of person certifying)

Date: 7-17-2003

\* Only the date of filing (§ 1.6) will be the date used in a patent term adjustment calculation, although the date on any certificate of mailing or transmission under § 1.8 continues to be taken into account in determining timeliness. See § 1.703(f). Consider "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" (§ 1.10) or facsimile transmission (§ 1.6(d)) for the reply to be accorded the earliest possible filing date for patent term adjustment calculations.

NOTE: "An information disclosure statement shall be considered by the Office filed by the applicant within any one of the following time periods:

(1) Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d);

(2) Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application;

(3) Before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits; or

(4) Before the mailing date of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114."

37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

NOTE: "Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section." 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a).

"Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

(1) each inventor named in the application;

(2) each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and

(3) every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application." 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c).

NOTE: The "duty as described in § 1.56 will be met so long as the information in question was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98 before issuance of the patent." Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13 -25 at 17.

WARNING: "No information disclosure statement may be filed in a provisional application." 37 C.F.R. § 1.51(d).

### List of Sections Forming Part of This Information Disclosure Statement

The following sections are being submitted for this Information Disclosure Statement:

(check sections forming a part of this statement: discard unused sections and number pages consecutively)

1. ☐ Preliminary Statements
2. ☒ FORMS PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly FORM PTO-1449)
3. ☐ Statement as to Information Not Found in Patents or Publications
4. ☐ Identification of Prior Application in Which Listed Information Was Already Cited and for Which No Copies Are Submitted or Need Be Submitted
5. ☒ Cumulative Patents or Publications
6. ☐ Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement
7. ☐ Concise Explanation of Non-English Language Listed Information Items
  - 7A. ☐ EPO Search Report
  - 7B. ☐ English Language Version of EPO Search Report
8. ☐ Translation(s) of Non-English Language Documents
9. ☐ Concise Explanation of English Language Listed Information Items (Optional)
10. ☐ Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement

(complete the following, if appropriate)

Sections 2 and 5, respectively, have been continued on ADDED PAGE(S).

NOTE: "Once the minimum requirements are met, the examiner has an obligation to consider the information." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 37).

(Information Disclosure Statement [6-1]—page 2 of \_\_\_\_)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<b>Complete If Known</b>	
				Application Number	
				Filing Date	
				First Named Inventor	Robert Gary Ellis
				Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
Sheet 1 of 1				Attorney Docket Number	36070.010

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.†	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code² (If known)			
		US-3,655,211	04-11-72	Bollettieri	
		US-3,862,768	01-28-75	England	
		US-4,270,764	06-02-81	Yamada	
		US-5,044,250	09-03-91	Beyer	
		US-5,267,743	12-07-93	Smisek	
		US-5,460,558	10-24-95	Woodstock	
		US-D.379,647	06-03-97	Levinthal	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.†	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 801.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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